THE COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE BUDGET SESSION OF 1122

Thursday, *the* *14th August 1947.*
29th Karkadagam 1122.

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at half-past Eleven of the Clock with the Hon'ble President (Mr. L. M. Pylee, M.A., B.L.), in the Chair.

All the members except Mr. P. E. Warne, Mr. K. Kochukuttan, Mrs. K. M. R. Menon and Mrs. Dakshayani Velayudhan were present.

THE MESSAGE OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

(14th August 1947/29th Karkadagam 1122)

Mr. President : I am commanded by His Highness to read this Message to the Council.

AFTER nearly two centuries of subjection India is going to be independent tomorrow. It is a remarkable tribute to the Governor-General and India's leaders that the bitterness of the past few years has been forgotten and Englishmen and Indians are parting as friends. I hope this friendship will be fostered and the friendly association of these two great nations will continue in the international field. In this lies, I believe, the cure for many ills the old world is suffering from.

AND yet after the rejoicings are over we cannot but remember that we have parted with a section of our own people in hatred and bloodshed. There is a warning in this for the Hindus and Muslims. They have been more concerned with their past glory than their present misery. Their mutual social exclusiveness is a negation of love and a denial of common courtesy to each other. In the result this attitude has failed to engender a brotherly or even a neighbourly feeling between them. Hatred and disgust towards each other have grown and the country had to be cut up to avoid further bloodshed. If this catastrophe is not going to teach the Indian, whether Hindu or Muslim, to change his attitude to his fellow-men we have no future as a nation. It is only a revolution in social outlook and a cultural regeneration of the Indian that can change the ominous prospects otherwise in store for us. Only one man in India today can bring this about.

THE salvation of our nation lies with Pandit Nehru, the Premier and First Citizen of India. No man thinks of him as a Hindu, Muslim, or Christian. He is an Indian first and an Indian last. I would, therefore, request the people of India, young and old, prince and peasant to resolve on this solemn occasion that they will follow his lead in every aspect of life and help him by unstinted co-operation and effort to make India the land of his dream. I pray God Almighty to give my country-men the gift to see their faults as faults and the capacity and the will to rectify them. In this way we may yet hope to reunite the two Dominions for the perpetual glory and strength of our country.

AS far as our State is concerned, the rapidity with which events have moved since my last message to the Council, has compelled me to revise the programme of constitutional changes in Cochin. Cochin has acceded to and become part of the Indian Dominion. In my view it is essential for the strength and prosperity of India that all units of the Indian Federation should as far as possible have uniform systems of administration. Therefore I am proposing to transfer all Departments except Palace, Devaswam, Police, Jail and State Forces to Ministers under Government of Cochin Act. I will be entrusting Police, Jail and State Forces to one of my Ministers though in respect of them no transfer has been made. In practice, therefore, full Responsible Government will be functioning in this State. Even during the last one year all major decisions connected with the reserved subjects were taken after consultation with the Cabinet. These proposals will be implemented soon after MY Diwan returns from Delhi.

I HOPE the Ministers will carry out their duties with a view to establish a tradition of firm, good and efficient administration remembering that the Government here should always work harmoniously and in co-operation with the Centre and the neighbouring Governments.

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ALONG with these changes a Public Service Commission will be constituted in order to ensure the creation of an efficient body of civil servants who will carry out loyally and uninfluenced by party politics the orders of the Government of the day. The Communal Ratio will be observed as hitherto in making appointments to the Public Service.

Mr. President: The Council stands adjourned *sine die.*

The House adjourned sine die at 11-45 a.m.

P. NARAYANA SWAMY

Secretary to the Council

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